

# Rhode Island Department of Health

## Health Policy Briefs

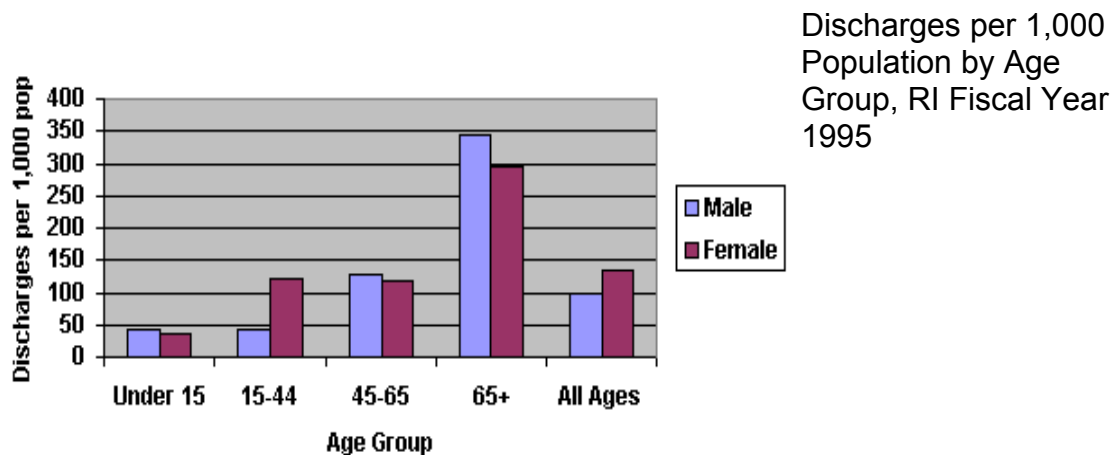
### Patterns of Hospital Inpatient Use in Rhode Island, 1995

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Note: Findings in this report were taken from "Utilization of Rhode Island Hospitals, October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995" (See Publications).

**People ages 65 years and over are the most frequent users of hospital care.**



In 1995 the statewide hospital discharge rate per 1,000 population for all ages was 118; by age group the rate ranged from a low of 40 for those under age 15 years to a high of 313 for those 65 years old and over. By sex, the overall discharge rate for females was 38% higher than for males, a difference primarily due to childbearing, as males were higher than females in all other age groups. Most significantly, while patients 65 years and over comprised 15.7% of the state's 1995 population, they accounted for 41.9% of all hospital discharges and used 55.3% of all days of care.

**Rhode Island's pattern for discharges by diagnosis group is similar to the United States.**

The all-inclusive discharge rate per 1,000 population for Rhode Island and the United States is virtually identical at 117.5. RI's top six diagnostic categories are

the same as the top six categories nationally, with minor rate differentials by category. Heart disease was the most common diagnosis for both RI and the US, with RI's rate 7% higher than the US. Deliveries were the next most common diagnosis in RI, at 4% less than the US. The third most common diagnosis, malignant neoplasms, was 15% higher in RI than the US, making it the category with the largest differential. For the fourth category, pneumonia, RI was 13% lower than the US. RI and US rates were almost exactly the same for fractures and cerebrovascular disease.

Discharge Rate per 1,000 Population, Rhode Island and the United States, 1995

<u>Diagnosis Category</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 Population</u>	
	<u>RI</u>	<u>US</u>
<u>All discharges</u>	<u>117.5</u>	<u>117.5</u>
<u>Heart Disease</u>	<u>16.6</u>	<u>15.5</u>
<u>Deliveries</u>	<u>13.8</u>	<u>14.4</u>
<u>Malignant Neoplasms</u>	<u>6.2</u>	<u>5.4</u>
<u>Pneumonia</u>	<u>4.1</u>	<u>4.8</u>
<u>Fractures, all sites</u>	<u>3.8</u>	<u>3.8</u>
<u>Cerebrovascular disease</u>	<u>3.6</u>	<u>3.5</u>
<u>*Rhode Island: 10/1/94 - 9/30/95 United States: 1/1/95 - 12/31/95</u>		

**Rhode Island's pattern for discharges by procedure group shows differences from the national pattern.**

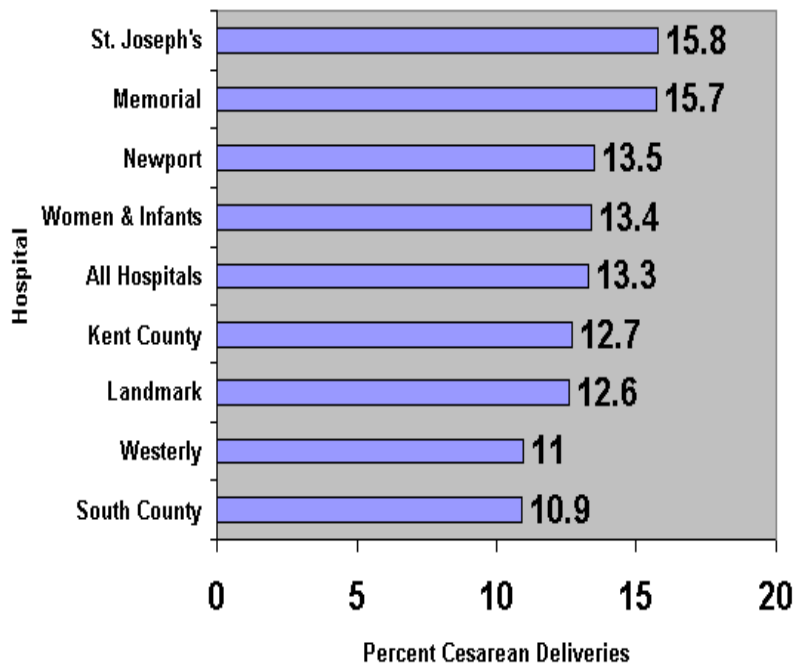
The all-inclusive procedure rate per 1,000 population for Rhode Island and the United States shows a negligible difference: RI (152.1), US (152.3). However, comparison of RI's top seven categories to these same categories for the US shows some major differences. Arteriography and angiocardiology (diagnostic heart procedures) were the most common procedure for both RI and the US, but the rate was 40% higher in RI. The two next most common procedures in RI were both obstetrical procedures, one (repair of obstetric laceration) was performed 43% more frequently in RI, the other (episiotomy) was performed slightly less frequently. Other major differentials were in computerized axial tomography ("CAT scans"), performed 23% less often in RI and cholecystectomy (removal of gall bladder), performed 44% more often here than in the US.

Procedure Rate per 1,000 Population, Rhode Island and the United States, 1995

<u>Procedure Category</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 Population</u>	
	<u>RI</u>	<u>US</u>
<u>All procedures</u>	<u>152.1</u>	<u>152.3</u>
<u>Arteriography and angiocardiography</u>	<u>9.8</u>	<u>7.0</u>
<u>Repair of obstetric laceration</u>	<u>5.3</u>	<u>3.7</u>
<u>Episiotomy</u>	<u>5.2</u>	<u>5.4</u>
<u>Cardiac catheterization</u>	<u>4.0</u>	<u>4.1</u>
<u>Computerized axial tomography</u>	<u>2.9</u>	<u>3.7</u>
<u>Cholecystectomy</u>	<u>2.6</u>	<u>1.8</u>
<u>*Rhode Island: 10/1/94 - 9/30/95 United States: 1/1/95 - 12/31/95</u>		

**The primary cesarean section rate for all Rhode Island hospitals was 13.3%.**

Primary Cesarean Delivery Rate by Hospital, Rhode Island, Fiscal Year 1995



In 1995 there were 2,481 cesarean sections included in the 13,629 total deliveries at the state's eight hospitals with maternity services. Total deliveries by hospital ranged from 8,734 at the Women and Infant's Hospital (64.1% of all deliveries) to 493 deliveries at St. Joseph's Hospital. Of the cesarean sections, 874 (35%) were performed on women with previous cesareans and 1,607 (65%) were primary cesareans. The statewide primary cesarean delivery rate was 13.3%, and ranged by hospital from 10.9% to 15.8%. For comparison, the national primary cesarean section rate in 1995 was 15.5%.

## **Data Source**

**Uniform Hospital Discharge Data System (UHDDS), Rhode Island Department of Health.** These data were collected by means of the Rhode Island Uniform Hospital Discharge Data System (UHDDS), a continuous reporting system that was established as of October 1, 1989 by regulations promulgated by the Department under its licensure authority (Rhode Island General Laws 23-17-10).<sup>\*</sup> The data for this report came from 100% reporting of inpatient records by all non-Federal acute care general hospitals in the state. To the extent possible, data have been analyzed and presented in a manner comparable to that used with annual summary reports from the National Hospital Discharge Survey. (Pre-publication data for 1995 were kindly released to the Office of Health Statistics by the National Center for Health Statistics for use in this report.) Consistent with the national reports, all data with respect to newborn infants are excluded from this report. Medical data including diagnoses and procedures were coded according to the *International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision, Clinical Modification*, or ICD-9-CM.

<sup>\*</sup>Current regulations are available on request to the Division of Health Services Regulation, Rhode Island Department of Health (Telephone 401-222-6015).

## **For Additional Information on this Subject:**

### **Publications**

Office of Health Statistics. *Utilization of Rhode Island Hospitals, October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995*. Rhode Island Department of Health, Providence, RI, October 1997. (Available from the Office of Health Statistics at 401-222-2550)  
United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics: *National Hospital Discharge Survey: Annual Summary*, Hyattsville, MD, published annually.  
United States Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service and Health Care Financing Administration. *International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision, Clinical Modification*, 3rd edition. Washington DC. 1989.

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